CLAIMS

1. A gene encoding a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

2. The gene according to claim 1 encoding a protein that has an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, and 10, and that has an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

3. The gene according to claim 1 encoding a protein that has an amino acid sequence modified by the addition, deletion and/or substitution with other amino acids of one or a plurality of amino acids in the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10, and that has an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

4. The gene according to claim 1 that hybridizes to a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 8, or 10 or a portion thereof under a stringent condition, and that encodes a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones.

5. A vector comprising a gene according to any one of the claims 1 to 4.

6. A host transformed with a vector according to claim 5.

7. A protein encoded by a gene according to any one of the claims 1 to 4.

8. A method of producing a protein having an activity of transferring a glycosyl group to aurones, said method comprising culturing, cultivating, or breeding a host according to claim 6 and recovering said protein from said host.

9. A plant into which a gene according to any one of the claims 1 to 4 has been introduced, and a progeny and a tissue thereof having the same property as said plant.

10. A cut flower of the plant according to claim 9, or a progeny thereof having the same property as said

plant.

11. A method of stabilizing aurones which method comprises allowing the protein according to claim 7 to act on aurones thereby to transfer a glycosyl group to aurones.

12. A method of stabilizing aurones in the plant body which method comprises introducing the gene according to any one of the claims 1-4 into the plant body, allowing said gene to be expressed, and using the protein produced therein to transfer a glycosyl group to aurones in the plant body.